



WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PASSED BY CONGRESS, REQUIRING ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. AS THE TWO FACTIONS MEET IN COMBAT, THE BATTLEFIELD IS SUNDERED BY A TREMENDOUS BOLT OF LIGHTNING--HERALDING THE APPEARANCE OF THE MIGHTY THOR!



CIVIL WAR

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MORRY HOLLOWELL

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

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CIVIL WAR

After Stamford, Connecticut is destroyed during a televised fight between the New Warriors and a group of dangerous villains, public sentiment turns against super heroes. Advocates call for reform, and a Superhuman Registration Act is debated, which would require all those possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government, divulge their true identities to the authorities and submit to training and sanctioning in the manner of federal agents.

One week later, the Act is passed. Any individual with paranormal powers who refuses to register is now a criminal. Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society and a reasonable request. Others view the Act as an assault on their civil liberties. After being called upon to hunt down heroes in defiance of the Registration Act, Captain America goes underground and forms a resistance movement.

As the two factions meet in combat at an abandoned chemical plant, the battlefield is sundered by a tremendous bolt of lightning, heralding the appearance of the mighty Thor!



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CAP, PLEASE, DON'T
GET UP. I DON'T WANT
TO HIT YOU AGAIN. YOUR
JAW'S PRACTICALLY
HANGING OFF.
JUST SURRENDER,
AND I'LL GET YOU
MEDICAL ATTENTION
FROM THE S.H.I.E.L.D.
PEOPLE OUT THERE.



YOU REALLY
THINK I'M GOING
DOWN--

--TO SOME
PAMPERED
PUNK LIKE
YOU?



IRON MAN TO
ALL POINTS:
ACTIVATE YOUR
AUDIO-BLOCKS.

THIS IS
GOING TO
HURT...







SOMEBODY SWITCHED IT OFF!

SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?



UNGH!



FALCON!
SEE TO CAPTAIN
AMERICA! WE
NEED TO GET
HIM OUT
OF HERE!



HALFWAY
THERE,
HERCULES.



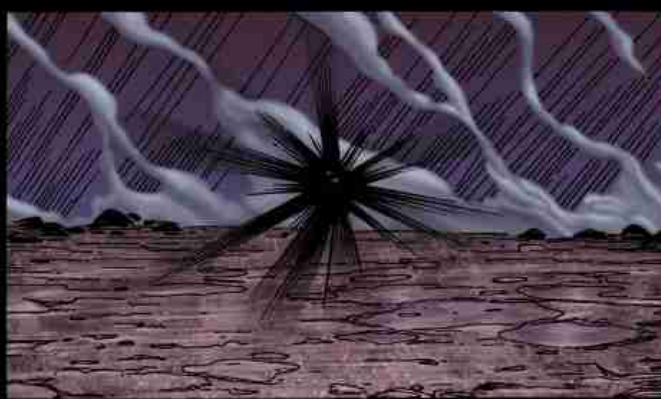
CABLE, I NEED
YOU TO INTERFACE
WITH CLOAK'S MIND
AND ACTIVATE A
TELEPORT.

EVERYBODY
ELSE CAN GATHER
'ROUND AND HITCH
A RIDE BACK
HOME.















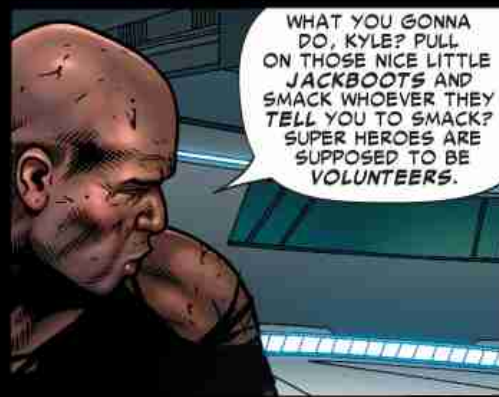
SECRET AVENGERS HEADQUARTERS:





BILL WAS DEAD THE SECOND HE THOUGHT HE WAS BIGGER THAN THE LAW, CAP.

C'MON, GUYS, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.



WHAT YOU GONNA DO, KYLE? PULL ON THOSE NICE LITTLE JACKBOOTS AND SMACK WHOEVER THEY TELL YOU TO SMACK? SUPER HEROES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE VOLUNTEERS.



NO, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE GOOD GUYS, CAGE.



CASSIE?



I'M SORRY, KATE, BUT I DON'T WANT TO END UP IN THIS SUPER-JAIL LIKE WICCAN. I WANT TO FIGHT VILLAINS, NOT COPS AND OTHER SUPER HEROES.



LET THEM GO IF THEIR FREEDOM MEANS SO LITTLE TO THEM.

IT'S TIME WE DITCHED THIS BASE FOR A NEW ONE ANYWAY.



HE'S JUST ANOTHER OLD MAN SCARED OF THE FUTURE, CASSIE.

WON'T BE HAPPY UNTIL THE WHOLE DAMN TEAM'S DEAD.



GOLIATH'S FUNERAL, NEW JERSEY:



HELL OF A SEND-OFF, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.



GUY WAS A SUPER HERO, HAPPY, AND HE SAVED A LOT OF LIVES OVER THE YEARS. THAT'S SOMETHING WE CAN'T FORGET NO MATTER HOW BAD THIS GETS.

JUST A SHAME THEY COULDN'T SHRINK HIM DOWN. I WONDER HOW MUCH HIS FAMILY HAD TO SHELL OUT FOR THESE THIRTY-EIGHT BURIAL PLOTS.



NOTHING. I TOOK CARE OF ALL THE EXPENSES. IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO...





IS IT JUST ME
OR IS PETER PARKER
ACTING VERY, VERY
SUSPICIOUSLY?

My darling Reed...

I know Johnny's out of the
hospital and the family's
back together again. I know
I should be happy, but
I'm not.



I'm so ASHAMED of you
right now, and ashamed of
myself for supporting your
fascistic plans. I hate what
I've become, and that's why
I'm joining Cap's **SECRET**
AVENGERS team.



Please understand:
This is not another
cry for attention.
This is not me trying
to distract you from
your all-important
work.

This is because our hands are soaked in Bill
Foster's **BLOOD** and you're so blinded by your
graphs and social projections that you can't
even **SEE** it.

Johnny and I will be working UNDERGROUND from now on, and that's obviously no place for Franklin and Valeria.

That's why I've left them in your care and beg you to give them the time you have so often DENIED them in the past.

I also didn't want your last memory of me to be tainted with all the blazing fights we've had in recent weeks.

Reed

Hence the oily-fish dinner (good brain-food), the bottle of your favorite claret (an excellent antioxidant) and making love one final time (good for the immune system).

I hope I don't look like a coward for leaving this way. I hope you don't think I'm a bad wife or, worse still, a bad mother.

I'm doing this for the best of reasons and pray that your genius can RESOLVE this thing before one side ends up slaughtering the other.

I love you, Reed. More than anything in the world.

Please fix this.

Susan
XXX

AVENGERS TOWER:



THAT'S
BECAUSE
THEY'RE
NOT NICE
PEOPLE.





ZOMBIE